

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-12

XMB-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

AID-20 DRC-01 L-03 /102 W
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O R 011900Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2567

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3935

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BH, NU

SUBJECT: US INVESTOR INTEREST: CATTLE RANCHING

REF: STATE 194172

1. NICARAGUAN LAW DOES IN THEORY PERMIT THE EXPORT OF YEARLINGS ONCE CERTAIN HEALTH REQUIREMENTS ARE MET AND A MINIMAL FEE IS PAID. HOWEVER, THE INTENT OF THE LAW IS CLEARLY TO SEVERELY LIMIT EXPORTS OF LIVE CATTLE. MOREOVER, PAST PRACTICE AND CURRENT PUBLIC POLICY IS TO ABSOLUTELY PROHIBIT LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS. ALTHOUGH AN INVESTMENT IN LARGE SCALE RANCHING WOULD BE WELCOMED BY THE GON AND PROBABLY FEASIBLE ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS, GAINING PERMISSION FOR CALF EXPORTS APPEARS TO BE HIGHLY UNLIKELY.

2. SOME OF THE MORE OBVIOUS ARGUMENTS WHICH WOULD BE FACED BY MR. WOZENCRAFT ARE:

(A) NICARAGUA CA ALREADY SELL ALL THE MEAT IT PRODUCES AND IS CURRENTLY BUILDING ITS HERDS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS MARKET.

(B) THE CURRENT TREND IN THE INDUSTRY IS TOWARD GREATER,
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RATHER THAN LESS, VALUE ADDED.

(C) ANY CONCESSION TO FOREIGN INVESTORS WOULD SET A PRECEDENT FOR NICARAGUAN CATTLEMEN AND REDUCE THE AVAILABILITY OF CATTLE FOR SLAUGHTER.

3. APPROPRIATE GON CONTACTS FOR THE PROJECT WOULD BE NOEL PALLAIS DEBAYLE, PRESIDENT OF INFONAC, JUAN JOSE MARTINEZ, MINISTER OF ECONOMY, AND GENERAL ANASTASIO SOOZA DEBAYLE REGARDING A PERMANENT EXCEPTION TO THE EXPORT LAW. PALLAIS AND MARTINEZ WILL BE OUT OF NICARAGUA UNTIL APPROXIMATELY OCTOBER 22. ALL THREE PROBABLY WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS PROJECT, ALTHOUGH WE DOUBT SERIOUSLY THAT PERMISSION TO EXPORT WOULD BE GRANTED.
SHELTON

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